



ARTICLES To be enquired of

in the Visitation of the
Archdeacon of Buc-

KINGHAM.

Anno Dom. 1626.



LONDON,



The forme of the Oath to be ministred
vnto the Church-Wardens and Sidemen.

YOU shall sweare, that you, and euery of
you, shall duely consider, and diligently
inquire, of all and euerie of these Articles
giuen you in charge; that all affectation, fauor,
hope of reward and gaine, or feare of displea-
sure, or malice set aside; you shall present all
and euery such person of or within your Pa-
rish, as hath committed any offence, or made
any default mentioned in these, or any of these
Articles; or which are vehemently suspected
or defamed of any such offence or default:
Wherein you shall deale vprightly and fully:
neither presenting, nor sparing to present any,
contrarie to truth: hauing in this action God
before your eies, with an earnest zeale to
maintaine truth and vertue, and to suppreſſe
vice. So helpe you God, and the holy con-
tents of this Booke.

Articles concerning Religion and Doctrine.



1 Whether be there any abiding, or resorting to your Parish, that haue wilfully maintained and defended any heresies, errors, or false opinions, contrarie to the faith of Christ, and holy Scripture?

2 Item. Whether doth any in your Parish, being sirtene yeares of age or vpwards, or others lodging, or commonly resorting to any house in your Parish, wilfully absent themselves from your Parish Church, Chappell, or O:atorie, vpon Sundayes and Holidayes and other daies appointed, at Morning and Evening prayers? Or who come late to Church, and depart from Church before divine seruice and Sermon be ended: Or whether be there any, that perswade others to forbear and abstaine comming to Church to heare divine Seruice, and receive the holy Communion according to his Maiesties Lawes in that behalfe enacted?

3 Item, Whether be there any in your parish, that hath bee, or is vehemently suspected to haue bee present at any unlawfull assemblies, conuenticles, or meeblings, vnder colour or pretence of any exercise of Religion, or doth any affirme and maintain such meeting to be lawfull, contrarie to his Maiesties Statutes in that behalfe?

4 Item. Whether bee there any within your Parish that deny, or perswade any to deny, withstand, and impugne the Kings Maiesties authority and supremacie in causes Ecclesiasticall within his Realme?

5 Item, Whether bee there any abiding, or resorting to your Parish, that bee, or are commonly reputed to bee ill affected in matters of Religion professed in our Church, or taken to be Recusant Papists, refusing to repaire vnto the Church to heare divine seruice, and receive the holy Communion, and being disobedient to his Highnesse Lawes, in that behalfe provided: Or doe any publish, sell, or disperse any superstitious books or writings: or other books, libels or writings of any letuanies touching the Religion, State, or Ecclesiasticall gouernment of this Kingdome of England. Present their names, qualities, & conditions. Doe any Papist keepe a schoolmaster in his house, which commeth not to Church as is required. What is his name, and how long hath he taught there or elsewhere?

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Articles concerning publike Prayer and ad minis- tration of the Sacraments.

First, Whether hath any in your Parish caused, procured, or main-
tained any Minister to say any common or publike prayer, or to
administer either of the Sacraments of Baptisme & the Lords Sup-
per otherwise, or in any other manner and forme, then is mentioned
in the said booke of Common Prayer: Or whether hath any inter-
rupted, hindred, let, or disturbed the Minister to read divine seruice,
and administer the Sacraments in such manner & forme, as is men-
tioned in the said booke, or interrupted him in his preachings and
Sermons?

2 Item, Whether is the Sacrament of Baptisme rightly and du-
ly administered according to the prescript forme expresse in the book
of Common Prayer, with due obseruation of all Rites and Ceremo-
nies prescribed in the administration of the same, without adding, or
altering any part or parcell of any prayers, interrogatories, or not
using the signe of the Crosse in the administration of the same?

3 Item, Whether is the administration of the Sacrament of Bap-
tisme deferred longer then the next Sunday or Holiday immediately
following the birth of the Child?

4 Item, Whether is the Sacrament of Baptisme refused to be ad-
ministered to any childdren borne in or out of wedlocke, their birth being
made knowne to the Minister of the parish, and offered unto him to be
baptized, or haue any such children died unbaptized?

5 Item, Whether be the Parents of any child to be baptized, ad-
mitted to be godfathers, and godmothers to the same?

6 Item, Whether haue there any childdren borne baptized in pri-
uate houses by any lay person, or midwife, or Popish priest, or by any
other Minister, but upon urgent occasion when the child was in dan-
ger of death?

7 Item, Whether haue the Childdren which haue beeene borne to a-
ny Popish Recusants, in your Parish, beene publickly baptizid in your
parish Church by your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, or by whom were
they baptizid, or where to your knowledge?

8 Item, Whether hath the blessed Sacrament of the Lords Sup-
per beeene duly and reverently administered every moneth, or thrice
every yeare at least, whereof once at Easter, within your Parish
Church to every parishioner being of 16 yeares of age, or upwards?

9 Item, Whether is the said holy Sacrament deliuereed unto, or
recei-

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received by any of the Communicants within your Parish, that un-
reverently sit or stand, or doe not devoutly and humbly kneele vpon
their knees?

10 Item, Whether hath any of your Parish been debarred from the
said holy Communion without iust cause, & without intimation first
given to the Ordinary or Bishop of the Dioces: and by whose default?

Articles concerning the Church, the Ornaments therof, and the Churches possessions.

First, Whether haue you in your Church or Chappell, the whole
Bible of the largest Volume, and of the last translation, the booke
of Common Prayer, lately set forth by his Maiesties authority, the
two bookes of Homilies, all well and fairly bound: A font of stone
set vp in the ancient vsuall place: a conuenient and decent Commu-
nion Table, with a Carpet of silke, or some other decent stoffe, con-
tinually laid vpon the table at time of divine Service, and a faire lim-
nen cloath at the time of administering the Communion: And whe-
ther is the same Table placed conueniently as it ought. And whe-
ther is it so vsed in or out of time of divine Service or Sermon, as is
not agreeable to the holy use of it, as by sitting on it, and by throwing
hats on it, or writing on it, or is it abusid to other prophane uses?
Are the ten Commandements set vpon the East end of your Church
with other sentences of Scripture aboue?

2 Item, Whether haue you in your said Church or Chappel, a con-
uenient seat for your Minister to read divine service in, together
with a comly Pulpit set vp in a conuenient place, with a decent cloth
or cushion for the same, a comely, large, and fine in place, a faire
Communion Cup, a flagon of Silver, or pewter, with all other things
and ornaments necessary for the celebration of divine service, and ad-
ministration of the Sacramento: and whether haue you a Chest for
Almes with thre locks and keyes, and another chest for keping the
books and Dmantments of the Church, and the Register booke. Haue
you a Register booke in parchment for Christnings, Weddings and
Burials, and is the same kept in all points according to the Canons.
And haue you a Table set in your Church of the degrees wherein by
law men are prohibited to marry?

3 Item, Whether is your Church or Chappell with the Chancell
therof, and your Parsonage or Vicarage house, your parish Almes-
house and Church house, in good reparations, and are they employed

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to godly, and their right holies uses: if any be ruined and wasted, in whom is the default? Is your Church, Chancell and Chappell decently and comely kept, as well within as without, and be the seats well maintained, the steeple and bells preserved, the windowes well glazed, the floore kept paud, plaine and even, and all things in orderly and decent sort, without dust, or any thing that may be either noisome or vnseemely for the house of God, as is prescribed in an Homily to that effect, and the 85 Canon.

4 Item, Whether bee your Churchyards well fenced, and kept without abuse, if not, whose default is it: hath any person encroached vpon the ground of the Churchyard: Haue any vied a place consecrated to holy uses prophaneley or wickedly: haue any quarrelled or strieket another in Church or Churchyard: haue any annoyed your Churchyard or the fence thereof, by putting in of cattell, by hanging of cloathes, or by laying there any dust, dung, or other filthinesse.

5 Item, Whether is your Church full, or vacant of an Incumbent, if vacant, who receiueth the fruits thereof, and who serueth the Cure and by what authority: And whether is it a Parsonage, Vicaridge or Donative, or Appropriation.

Item, What legacies haue beene giuen to the use and benefit of your Church, how haue they beene bestowed: who received them, and detaineth them without due imployment: Doth any detain or embezell any of the Church goods, or any other gifts giuen to charitable uses?

7 Item, Whether hath any in your Parish defaced, or caused to be defaced any monuments or ornaments in your Church?

8 Item, Whether hath any Popish Recusant beeing lawfully excommunicated, beeene enterred or buried in your Church or Churchyard, before absolution of that censure and excommunication: if yea, then by whom, and when.

9 Item, Whether be not the profits, tithes, and other commodities Ecclesiasticall, impiously and wickedly to the dishonor of Almighty God, and prejudice of the sacred ministry, converted to the use and benefit of covetous Patrons, and by them received and detained, and how long haue they beene so vsed to your knowledge.

Articles concerning Ministers, and Preachers of Gods holy word.

First, Whether is your Minister, Parson, Vicar, or Curate, a graduate in either of the Universities, or no: if yea, then of what

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degree. Is he a publike Preacher of Gods Word, and by whom is he so licenced?

2 Item. Whether doth your Minister distinctly, and reverently say Divine Service upon Sundaires and Holidayes, and other daies appointed to be obserued by the Booke of Common Prayer, as Wednesdayes, and Fridayes, and the Tunes of every Sunday and Holiday, at fit & vsuall times. And doth your Minister duely obserue the Ordners, Rites, and Ceremonies prescribed in the said booke of common prayer, aswell in reading all publike prayers, and the Letanie, as also in administering the Sacraments, solemnization of matrimony, visitation of the sicke, burying the dead, churching of women, and all other like Rites, and offices of the Church, in such manner and forme, as in the said booke of common prayer, is enjoyned, without any omission or addition of any thing? And doth hee read the Booke of the last Canons yearly?

3 Item, Whether doth your Minister alwaies, at every time both morning and evening, reading divine Service, and administering the Sacraments, and other Rites of the Church, weare the Surplice according to the Canons?

4 Item, Whether doth your Minister bid Holidayes and fasting daies, as is appointed: Doth he administer the hol' y Communion euery moneth, or thrice in the yeare at least, whereof once at Easter, to every Parishioner: doth he receive the same himselfe on every day that he administreth it to others, and vseth he the words of Institution according to the booke, without alteration, at euery time that the bread and wine is renewed: Doth he use and never omit the signe of the Crosse in Baptisme, or doth he ever baptize in any bason or other thing but the vsuall font: Doth he marry without a ring, or in times prohibited, or without the banes thrice published without a speciall Licence from the Archbisshop, or Bishop of the Diocesse, or his Chanceller, first had and obtained.

5 Item, Whether is your Minister a Preacher licenced or no: If no, whether doth he take vpon him in his owne cure or elsewhere to expound any Scripture or matter of Doctrine, and doth not keepe himselfe onely to the reading of Homilies published by authority: if so, then you are to present the same, the time and place where he did it: And if he be licensed, doth he preach vsually according to the 45. Canon, in his owne cure, or some other neighbour Church, where no Preacher is: doth he preach standing, and with his hat off? Or whe-

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ther doth hee or his Curate vpon every Sunday when there is no Sermon, read an Homily, or some part therof, according as he ought to doe?

6 Item. Whether doth your Minister publish in his Sermons, any doctrine which is new and strange, and disagreeing from the word of God, and from the Articles of Christian faith and religion agreed on and published An. Dom. 1562. or whether doth he teach any thing, which he wold haue the people religioully to obserue, and believe, but that which is agreeable to the Scriptures, and that which the Catholike Fathers and ancient Bishops haue gathered out of that doctrine according to the Canon?

7 Item, Whether are any Ministers admitted to preach in your Church, who haue not before the Church-wardens subscribed their names in your booke for that purpose, the day when he preached, and the name of the Bishop of whom he had licence to preach. And is any one admitted to preach before he sheweth his licence?

8 Item, Doth any preacher in your pulpit particularly impugne and confute any doctrine deliuered by others his fellow preachers, before hee hath acquainted the Bishop of the Diocesse therewith, and received order from him what to doe in that case.

9 Item, Doth your Minister vse alwayes to pray for the Kings Maiestie, the Queene, &c. Clergie, Council, &c. giuing them their full titles as in the Canon is required?

10 Item, Whether is your Minister resident vpon his Benefice, or absent: if absent, by whom is the cure serued, the stucks received: Doth your Minister or Curate serue any moare cures then one: if yea, then what other Cure doth he serue, and how farre are they distant?

11 Item, Whether doth he catechize the youth of his Parish vpon Sundays and holiades before Evening prayer for halfe an hour or moare, in the Catechisme set forth in the booke of common priarie: and whether doe all the Parishioners diligently attend his catechizing, and who refuse to send their children and seruants to bee catechized by him?

12 Item, Doth your Minister carefully looke to the reliese of the poore, and from time to time call vpon his parishioners to give somewhat according to their ability, to godly and charitable uses, especially when they make their wills?

13 Item, Whether hath he being learned and sufficient, conferred with the Popish Recusants of his parish, endeavoring to reclaim them

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them from their errors, and presenting them being obstatte, for their
Mensancy?

14 Item, Doth your Minister in the Rogation dayes goe in perambulation of the circuit of your Parish, saying and using the prayers, suffrages & thanksgivings to God appointed by law, according to his duty thanking God for his blessings, & praying for his grace & fauor.

15 Item, hath your Minister, or any other Preacher made any sermons, administered the Sacraments, or Churched women in any private houses, otherwise then is by law allowed?

16 Item, what Curats or preachers doe reade prayers, or administer the Sacraments in your Parish, without lawfull licence: or doth any Layman, not having holy orders, presume to reade publike prayers in the Church?

17 Item, whether haue you any Preacher or Lecturer in your Parish: and whether, if any such be, he doth twice at the least every year make himselfe diuine service both morning and euening two severall Sundayes, publike in his Surplice: and also twice in the yeare administer both Sacraments, with such rites and Ceremonies as are prescribed in the book of common prayer according to the 56. Canon.

18 Item, whether is your Minister studious in the holy Scriptures, and abstaineth from mechanicall trades, or labour not befitting his function, and from apparel unseemly for his calling, and from gaming, swearing, drunckenes, or such notorious crimes: or is there any in your parish, who hauing been admitted into holy orders, either Deacon or Minister, doth relinquish and forsake his calling, and liueth in the course of his life as a Layman?

Articiles concerning Matrimony.

1 Item, whether be there any in your Parish that haue maried within the degrees of affinity, or consanguinity by the law of God for bidden: if any, what be they?

2 Item, whether haue any bee maried secretly in private houses, or without their parents or governores consent signified, being under the age of 21 yeares?

3 Item, Whether doe any persons lawfully maried live asunder un lawfully, and in whom is the default?

4 Item, whether any persons (the bannes being not thrice published in the Church) haue bee maried without licence, who were present at such marriages, and what Minister maried them?

5 Item,

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5 Item, Is there any in your parish, that is boyced, noted and credibly reported & accused to haue two wifes living, or two husbands?

Articles concerning the Churchwardens.

First, whether be the Churchwardens chosen by the Minister and Parishioners, according to the 89 Canon; and whether hath any taken vpon him to be Churchwarden, being not so chosen: Or hath any continued aboue one yere in his office without a new choice?

2 Item, Whether haue any Churchwardens retained any of the Church goods, and not made a iust accompt of what they haue received and expended?

3 Item, haue they beeene, and are they diligent in their office, to see reverence kept in the Church, and order in the time of common prayer, and administration of the Sacraments, and that there be no disturbance, but sobernesse & quietnes in the Church. And doe the Churchwardens keepe a booke in your Parish wherein the name of every strange preacher in your parish is set downe: and haue the Churchwardens suffered any to preach not shewing or having no licence?

Articles concerning the Parishioners.

First, whether doe any in your parish prophane the Sunday by un-lawfull games, drinking, or tipling in time of Common prayer, or Sermon: and by working, and doing the ordinary worke of their vocation and trades?

2 Item, Is there any in your parish that do impugne or speak against the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England, or the lawfull use of them, and the government of this Church vnder his Maiestie, by Archbishops, Bishops, and other Ecclesiasticall officers?

3 Item, who in your parish doe come to the Sermon onely, and not to diuine seruice: and who doe not reverently behaue themselves during the time of diuine seruice, devoutly kneeling when the Generall Confession of sinnes, the Letany, the ten Commandements, and all Prayers and Collects are read: and using all due and lowly reverence when the blessed name of the Lord Jesus is mentioned, and standing vp when the Articles of the Belife are read, or who doe couer their heads in the Church during the whol time of diuine seruice, unlesse it be in case of necessitie, in which case they may weare a night-cap: Or who doe give themselves to babling, talking, or walking, and are not attentive to heare the word read and preached?

4 Item, Is there any of your parish having a preacher to their Minister,

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Minister, that absent themselves from his Sermons, and resort to other places to heare other preachers: or doe any in your parish communicate or baptize their children in any other parish?

5 Item, Is there any in your parish that refuse to have their children baptiz'd, or themselves to receive the Communion of your Minister, taking exception against him: or have any wifes that refuse to come to Church according to the booke of Common Praier, to give thankes to God for their safe deliuerance, in a decent habit, as hath bene anciently accustomed?

6 Item, Hath any in your parish spoken slanderous & reproachfull words against your Minister, to the scandal of his vocation, or against their mariage or wives, or against his neighbours, defaming them touching any crime of Ecclesiasticall cognizance?

7 Item, whether doe any in your parish exercise any trade, or labours, buy or sell, or keepe open shoppes, or set out any wares, to bee sold vpon Sundays and holi daies, by themselves, their seruants, or apprentices, or otherwise profaned the said daies.

8 Item, whether is the 27 of March, and the 5 of November kept holy, and thanksgiving made to God, according to the order set forth in that behalfe?

9 Item, Is there any in your parish that be, or are commonly known or reputed, to be blasphemers of Gods holy name, drunkards, adulterers, fornicators, incestuous persons, concealers, or harbores of fornicatores, or adulterers: haue any been detected of such notorius crimes, and what penance haue they done for the same?

10 Item, what persons be excommunicate within your Parish, and for what cause to your knowledge: and whether doe any of them re-paire to the Church, in time of Praier unabsolued?

Articles concerning Schoolmasters and Parish-Clarks.

1 Item, is there any Schoolmaster in your parish that teacheth publicly or priuately, not licensed by the Ordinary: Doth he teach any Papists or Sectaries children, that come not to church. And doth he instruct all his Schollers to learne the shorster Catechisme by law established, contained in the booke of Common praier: Is he a Graduate, and sufficient to teach?

2 Item, haue you a fit parish Clarke, aged twentie yeares at least, of honest life, able to read and write. Are his and the Sextons wages paid

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your inoffense stand: if not, then whose default is it. By whom is he chosen: is he diligent in his office, and serviceable to the Minister: doth he meddle with any thing above his office: doth he keepe the Church cleane, the doores locked, the anything lost and swolled by his default: and doth he execute his office duly.

Articles concerning Ecclesiastical Offices.

1. Whether be there any ecclesiastical officers, that exercise ecclesiastical jurisdiction within this Diocesse, that take & receive or exact any extraordinarie and excessive fees for any cause: whether have your Churchwardens and Questmen concealed any abuses or offences punishable in the ecclesiastical Court: and whether such offences being presented, are suppressed and unpunished?

2. Item, Hath any ecclesiastical Judge or officer, Advocate, Regis-
ter, Proctor, Clerke, or other such ministers any way abused them-
selves in their offices, contrary to the Law and canons in that behalfe
provided?

3. Lastly, whether have you and every of you, sincerely, uprightly, and without any partiall affection and concealing, presented & made knowne all and every the offenders in any of the matters mentioned in the precedent Articles exhibited unto you, either as they are taken in truth be, or by common fame reported?

There must be severall Presentments made to euery severall Article.

F I N I S.

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